

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. An endoscopic biliary sphincter scissor device comprising:
 - a first scissor blade;
 - a second scissor blade;
 - 5 an actuator having a first end and a second end, the first end connected to the scissor device to actuate relative movement between the first scissor blade and the second scissor blade; and
 - a flexible sheath surrounding the actuator that can be inserted within an endoscopic channel to position the scissor device at a surgical site.
- 10 2. The device of Claim 1 wherein the sheath has an outer diameter of 2.5mm or less.
3. The device of Claim 1 wherein the first scissor blade is stationary and the second scissor blade rotates relative to the first blade.
4. The device of Claim 1 wherein the actuator comprises a wire and a control element.
- 15 5. The device of Claim 1 wherein the sheath comprises a wound filament.
6. The device of Claim 5 wherein the sheath comprises a coating material.
7. The device of Claim 6 wherein the coating comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.
8. The device of Claim 3 wherein the stationary blade extends along a longitudinal axis of the sheath.

9. The device of Claim 1 wherein the sheath comprises a distal arced region defining a plane of orientation of the scissor.
10. The device of Claim 3 wherein the stationary blade comprises a tapered stationary blade and the actuating blade comprises an angled actuating blade.
- 5 11. The device of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the blades comprises an electrode element that cauterizes at a surgical site, the electrode element being connected to an electrical source.
12. An endoscopic sphincterotomy system comprising:
an endoscope having a viewing port, a channel through which an
10 endoscopic scissor can be inserted and an elevator that actuates movement of the scissor extending through a distal port of the endoscope; and
a biliary scissor having a first blade, a second blade, a sheath having a diameter less than a diameter of the endoscope channel, and an actuator that actuates relative movement between the first blade and the second blade.
- 15 13. The system of Claim 12 wherein the endoscope has a side viewing port and the distal port opens in a radial direction such that the scissor, having a distal accuate region, extends radially from the endoscope, the arcuate region defining a plane of orientation of the scissor relative to the endoscope.
- 20 14. The system of Claim 12 wherein the sheath has an outer diameter of 2.5 mm or less.